



News Release

Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests &
Thunder Basin National Grassland
<http://fs.usda.gov/mbr>

Contact: Laramie Ranger District, (307) 745-2300 or Sara Alberts, (307) 745-2338

Tree and Fuels Projects Continue Across Laramie Ranger District

(LARAMIE, Wyo.) October 31, 2011 – This fall and winter, multiple forest management projects will take place across the Laramie Ranger District (LRD) of the Medicine Bow National Forest. Projects include fuels reduction, hazard tree removal from roadsides and campgrounds, as well as thinning.

The bulk of the work will be in the southern portion of the Snowy Range, although crews will be working on projects throughout the LRD. Visitors should be aware that this is a very active program of work. Some detours, delays and temporary road closures will be necessary. Limited access and limited motorized recreational opportunities are likely for some visitors. Visitors may encounter logging machinery in contract areas and log trucks along Forest Roads. Do not enter areas which are posted closed, as they are closed for your safety.

Please be aware that contract operations may affect trails near the project areas. Work will generally be accomplished during weekdays; however, some work may occur on weekends and holidays. The work may cause temporary inconvenience for visitors, but is essential to maintain long-term access and public safety.

Page two of this news release includes a numbered list of projects and locations. Only the main road locations are identified, but other roads near projects may be affected. Project locations are displayed on a map for easy reference (Page 3). Please call the LRD at 307-745-2300 to inquire about current conditions and to check the status of work in the area you plan to visit.

This work is generally being done in response to impacts from the mountain pine beetle epidemic. Efforts will reduce hazards to private land owners, visitors and Forest Service employees.

In addition, visitors need to be aware that the mountain pine beetle epidemic has increased the risk of falling trees. Trees impacted by the beetles appear red or have no needles. Green trees left after fuels reduction or hazard tree removal treatments are also susceptible to windthrow due to removal of the trees around them. Remember to look up, look down and look around before setting up camps or parking vehicles under dead trees. Please be aware of your surroundings while visiting areas affected by the epidemic.

Contact Sara Alberts, Forester with the LRD for further information at (307) 745-2338, salberts@fs.fed.us, or the LRD office at (307) 745-2300.

###

List of Laramie Ranger District Projects

1. West Devils POL (Products Other than Logs) Timber Sale
NFSR 506, NFSR 512, NFSR 511, NFSR 500, Highway 11 – *Operations ending soon for the season*
2. FHTR 543 Road Keystone Stewardship Task Order
NFSR 512, NFSR 543 (on NFSR 543 from NFSR 512 Jct. to NFSR 542 Jct.) - *Possible operations beginning summer 2013.*
3. FHTR 499/500A Road Spruce Stewardship Task Order
NFSR 500, NFSR 500A, NFSR 499 – *Anticipated operations beginning summer 2012.*
4. FY 2011 Pre-commercial Thinning Contract
NFSR 500, NFSR 542, NFSR 305 – *Hand falling work to resume summer of 2012, no impact to road travel.*
5. Strain Creek Stewardship Contract
NFSR 517, NFSR 513, NFSR 500, Fox Creek Road, Highway 11 – *Ongoing hauling and slash cleanup until approximately November 30, 2011*
6. Lake Owen Deck #2
NFSR 540, NFSR 517, Fox Creek Road – *Log truck loading may impact roads, use caution in the area. Estimated completion date of November 14, 2011*
7. FHTR 517 Road Dry Fox Stewardship Task Order
NFSR 517, from Foxpark to NFSR 513 – *Ongoing Operations until approximately November 15, 2011, with temporary delays for log truck loading. No winter operations expected. Operations for final cleanup to resume summer 2012.*
8. FHTR 509 Road Lake Creek Stewardship Task Order
NFSR 512, NFSR 509 – *Operations beginning on October 31, 2011, estimated completion date of December 10, 2011. No road closures anticipated, but avoidance is encouraged due to ever-changing work locations (both sides of the NFSR 509 loop). Please use alternate access to Lake Creek private properties to avoid encounters with logging equipment.*
9. FHTR 512 Road Gray Fox Stewardship Task Order
NFSR 512, Foxpark to NFSR 504 – *Estimated completion date of November 18, 2011.*
10. Somber Hill WUI (Wildland Urban Interface) Fuels Reduction Project
NFSR 512, NFSR 515, NFSR 530, NFSR 544, NFSR 544A, Highway 230 – *Current operations in the Miller Lake area. No impact to road travel anticipated.*
11. Wold Decks Timber Sale
NFSR 544A, Highway 230 – *Possible work beginning winter 2011, log loading and hauling only.*
12. WyColo WUI (Wildland Urban Interface) Fuels Reduction Project
NFSR 501, NFSR 526, NFSR 898C, NFSR 898F, Highway 230 – *Operations to resume November 2011 and continue through the winter, no hauling operations.*
13. WyDOT Highway 230 Hazard Tree Removal
Highway 230 – *Work anticipated to begin late November 2011 and continue through the winter.*
14. Sixmile Stewardship Contract
NFSR 516, NFSR 521, NFSR 898 – *Possible operations and hauling winter 2011.*
15. FHTR 898 Road Pelton Stewardship Task Order
NFSR 898 – *Possible operations beginning winter 2012.*
16. Carbon Power & Light Hazard Tree Removal Settlement Sale
Not shown on map, NFSR 500, Snowy Range Ski Area, Highway 130, Highway 230, NFSR 543, District Wide – *Operations on-going, currently in the Keystone and Albany area, operations anticipated to end for the season November 15, 2011, no winter operations expected.*
17. FHTR 351 Road Barber Lake Stewardship Task Order –
Not shown on map, located approximately 1 mile northwest of Centennial, WY
NFSR 351, Highway 130 – *Anticipated operations beginning spring 2012.*

Please note that the project numbers correspond with the numbers on the map.

